

certification. A rank order correlational analysis shows a statistically significant relationship indicating a decline in the number of bay scallop processors in the 25 year time series ( $r_{(24)} = -0.636$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ). The certification year of 1968-69 had the highest number of operations certified with 77. The 1991-92 certification year saw only 15 operations certified, the least of any year in the time series. Some factors that might have influenced the number of processors being certified could include the availability of bay scallops for harvest or the requirements for obtaining certification. Considering that 1974-75 was the last year in which shucker certification was issued, it is interesting to note that the difference between that certification year and the next is a reduction of only two processors.

Table 7.7 Bay scallop shucker/packer (S/P) and shucker (S) operations certified in North Carolina, 1968-1994. DEH, Shellfish Sanitation Section.

Year	S/P	S	Total
1968-69	42	35	77
1969-70	20	15	35
1970-71	32	21	53
1971-72	22	12	34
1972-73	21	2	23
1973-74	39	8	47
1974-75	27	8	35
1975-76	33	0	33
1976-77	32	0	32
1977-78	36	0	36
1978-79	32	0	32
1979-80	31	0	31
1980-81	44	0	44
1981-82	32	0	32
1982-83	26	0	26
1983-84	33	0	33
1984-85	30	0	30
1985-86	37	0	37
1986-87	40	0	40
1987-88	32	0	32
1988-89	22	0	22
1989-90	27	0	27
1990-91	21	0	21
1991-92	15	0	15
1992-93	20	0	20
1993-94	0	0	0

North Carolina bay scallops are typically processed close to where they are harvested. Table 7.8 shows the number of different certified plants by county based on two year groupings provided by DEH. The majority of bay scallops are harvested in Core and Bogue sounds, consequently the vast majority of bay scallops were processed in Carteret County. This is consistent with historical records (Gutsell 1928).